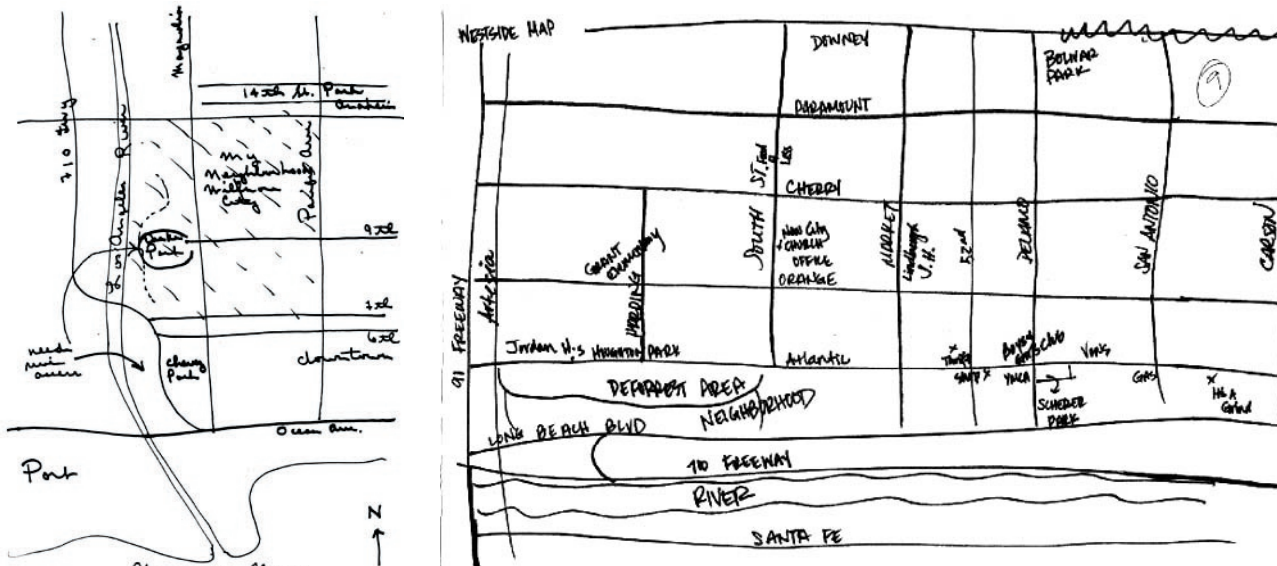


APPENDICES

APPENDIX A COMMUNITY OUTREACH

As part of the planning processes undertaken in this project, the design team and the San Pedro Bay Estuary Project (SPBEP) conducted nine community outreach meetings including four visioning meetings and five *charrette* meetings. Additionally, the SPBEP attended numerous community group meetings in the westside of Long Beach; at least one member of the design team was present at each of these meetings as well. The outreach meetings provided the invaluable first hand information of Long Beach and the westside of Long Beach that the design team needed to conduct a proper study and propose appropriate design solutions.

3. Could you please locate your neighborhood on the map? Please distinguish where the neighborhood ends. Where must one go to leave the neighborhood? Where are the ‘gateways’ to your neighborhood?
4. Please describe how you would get from your neighborhood to downtown, as if you were giving directions to a stranger. Picture yourself making the trip. What path-markers come to mind? We are interested in the physical pictures of things. It’s not important if you can’t remember the names of streets and places.
 - a. What about the Los Angeles River?
 - b. What, if anything, keeps you from taking a direct route?
5. Could you diagram your daily route to and



Examples of Cognitive Maps Drawn by Meeting Participants

Visioning Meetings

The visioning meetings were held in March of 2003 and asked participants to relate feelings about their city, parks, and neighborhoods, and to draw cognitive maps of the westside of Long Beach and related features. The following questionnaire was given to the participants of the visioning Meetings.

Visioning Meeting Questionnaire

1. What first comes to your mind, what symbolizes the words “Long Beach” for you? What about Long Beach makes you proud? Least proud? How would you broadly describe Long Beach in a physical sense?
2. Please draw a quick map of the Westside. Make it as if you were making a rapid description of the city to a stranger, covering the important features. This is not expected to be an accurate map – just a rough sketch.
3. Do you walk anywhere in your neighborhood? Where to? Do you walk on
4. from work? Do you take the same route both ways? Do you frequently stop on the way home for groceries or any other errands? If so, where do you stop? Do you regularly shop there?
5. What about your neighborhood is the most distinctive to you? These may be large or small, buildings, parks, certain trees, those elements which are easiest to identify and remember.
 - a. Please describe at least two of these elements in further detail.
 - b. Do any of these elements trigger a particular emotion?
 - c. Please locate these elements on the map.
 - d. If any of the elements have distinct edges; streets, streams, walls, etc., please draw them on the map.
6. Do you walk anywhere in your neighborhood? Where to? Do you walk on

a regular basis? Is there anywhere that you would like to walk to but can't? Why?

- 8. Do you bike anywhere in your neighborhood? Where to? Do you bike on a regular basis? Is there anywhere that you would like to bicycle to but can't? Why?
- 9. When walking or biking in your neighborhood, are there any parts of your route that feel unsafe? Why? What makes a safe environment for walkers and bicyclists?
- 10. Could you locate on the map where the parks in your neighborhood are? How long would it take you to walk to those parks? Could you describe that walk, is it pleasant or uncomfortable, safe or unsafe? Is there anything missing from these parks?
- 11. What types of park uses would you like to have in your neighborhood parks? What could enhance the natural environment of Long Beach?
- 12. Are there any unused or vacant areas in your neighborhood that could serve the community better? What could happen in these spaces? How would that benefit the community?
- 13. When was the last time you visited the Los Angeles River? How would you describe it? What makes the Los Angeles River different than classical images of other rivers? What could be done to enhance the experience along the river?

Charrette Meetings

The *charrette* meetings were held in April of 2003 and asked participants focused questions regarding the programming of parks in the westside of Long Beach. This questionnaire took the results from the visioning meetings and directed them towards neighborhood parks. As with the visioning meetings, a map exercise followed the questionnaire, asking participants to help conceptualize the programming and design of parks and greenways. The following questionnaire was used in the *charrette* meetings.

Charrette Meeting Questionnaire

Part I: Los Angeles River Section

Please circle all the answers that apply...

- 1. Do you have difficulty getting to the Los Angeles River by any of these methods?
Bicycle only
Pedestrian only
Bicycle & pedestrian
Never visit
Other (please write in):

- 2. Which are the major routes that get you to, from, and around the Los Angeles River?

Atlantic Ave
Cedar Ave
Chestnut Ave
Daisy Ave
I-405
I-710
Los Angeles River
Long Beach Blvd
Magnolia Ave
Pacific Ave
Pine Ave
Wardlow Rd
Other (please write in):

Which district, section of the city or neighborhood would you most identify with where you live in Long Beach?

Bixby Knolls
Drake Park
Downtown
Other (please write in):

- 3. Which landmarks best help in orienting and identify where you are in Long Beach?

Downtown Shoreline Hotels
The Queen Mary
Los Angeles River Bridges
Memorial Hospital
LB Performing Arts Center
Other (please write in):

- 4. Which are the major transportation conflicts that you come across or against when trying to get to the Los Angeles River?

Bicycles vs. Pedestrians
Bicycles vs. Motorized Vehicles
Pedestrians vs. Motorized Vehicles
Other (please write in):

- 5. What are your concerns when it comes to safety issues at or near the Los Angeles River area?

Generally safe
Generally unsafe
Lack of animation/desolate
Lack of egress/escape routes
Lack of police/security patrols
Unsafe near river edge/lack of rails
Unsafe at night
Vagrancy/crime
Other (please write in):

- 6. What general recreation types would you most like to be able to do along, at or near the Los Angeles River area?

Active: (bicycling, in-line skating, horseback riding, team sports, etc.)



Community Meetings

Passive: (walking, sitting, viewing, etc.)
Both
Other (please write in):

7. How would you describe the Los Angeles River’s character or qualities in Long Beach? Please circle all answers that apply...

- Attractive
- Clean
- Comfortable
- Dirty
- Damaged from graffiti/vandalism
- Natural
- Noisy from highways/factories
- Unattractive
- Uncomfortable/hot
- Underutilized/forlorn
- Other (please write in):

Part II, Potential Parks Development Section

Answer the following questions in regards to the “potential” park sites and/or wetlands sites that you are familiar with in your council district. Please write the name for each park first, then answer these three questions briefly for each individual site.

- 1) Are you familiar with the potential site?
- 2) What transportation methods would you probably use to get to the potential site?
- 3) Would you consider the potential site safe or unsafe?

Example:
Downtown site
Familiar
Walk
Safe

8. How would you designate these potential parks based on size, need, and amenities? Write in below each category the name of the site you would feel best fits your family’s and community’s needs.

<u>Park Designation</u>	<u>Size</u>
<u>Example Amenities</u>	
Mini Park	under 2 acres
Art/statues, BBQ/Picnic areas	
Specific needs	
Benches/Seating	
Small games (horse shoe, chess, etc)	
Tot lot/playgrounds	
Please list the sites that fit this category:	

<u>Park Designation</u>	<u>Size</u>
<u>Example Amenities</u>	

Neighborhood Park 2 – 10 acres
Activity center
Neighborhood programs
Ball Courts, Nature center
Community gardens
Educational/interpretation trails
Please list the sites that fit this category:

<u>Park Designation</u>	<u>Size</u>
<u>Example Amenities</u>	
Community Park	10+ acres
Ball fields	
Community Programs	
Community center	
Cultural responses	
Skate park	
Habitat preservation	
Swimming pools	
Please list the sites that fit this category:	

<u>Park Designation</u>	<u>Size</u>
<u>Example Amenities</u>	
Regional Park	175+ acres
Arboreta/botanic gardens	
Broad Influences	
Boating/marina	
Protect ecology & cultural resources	
Fieldhouse	
Multiple programs	
Museums	
Please list the sites that fit this category:	

Answer the following questions in regards to the “spotlighted or highlighted” park sites and/or streetscapes that we will concentrate on in today’s meeting. Please circle all answers that apply...

9. What types of amenities and/or attractions would you wish to have at these locations?

- Activities for handicap & seniors
- Art/sculptures
- Ball courts/fields
- BBQ/picnic areas
- Bicycle facilities/trails
- Bridle paths
- Drinking fountains
- Dog parks
- Educational/nature exhibits
- Lighting
- Performance spaces
- Playgrounds/tot lots
- Pocket parks
- Restrooms
- Seating/benches/rest areas
- Walking/interpretive trails
- Water features/fountains
- Other (please write in):

10. What types of urban natural features would you wish to have at these locations?

Children’s/community gardens
Educational/interpretive plantings
Greenways/landscaped paths
Interesting landforms
Lawns/open expanses
Manicured landscapes/flowers
Native vegetation/restoration
Tree plantings/groves
Wetlands/river plantings
Wildlife habitat
Other (please write in):

Based on the responses from the visioning questionnaire, it was clear to the design team that many of the participants walk or bicycle in their neighborhood and occasionally to the LARIO trail along the Los Angeles River channel. Additionally, almost half of the respondents noted serious conflicts in the westside of Long Beach between bicyclists, pedestrians, and motorists. The respondents desire both active and passive recreational space, to include amenities such as better lighting, playgrounds, and seating areas. As mentioned in the Imageability section, nearly all the respondents recognized downtown Long Beach as a distinct part of the city, and defined smaller shopping areas across town as definable points that the RiverLink system should connect to. By far, the issue that received the widest response was safety in parks; many people noted problems with crime and vagrancy, mostly at night, and asked for increased security patrols.

The responses from the *charrette* questionnaire confirmed the findings from the visioning meeting and narrowed the focus to spotlighted sites within the RiverLink system. In addition, the respondents noted that new park sites should be designed with public restrooms and drinking fountains. They also asked for nature trails incorporated within the design.

The design team feels that the community outreach meetings were a success despite the lower than expected participant turnout. For future meetings, the turnout could be improved by increased advertising at grocery stores and outreach through local schools, ethnic businesses, and community groups reflecting the cultural diversity of the westside of Long Beach.

APPENDIX B

FURTHER CASE STUDY RESEARCH

by James Chaddick

This appendix contains further information about the River Reconnection Case Studies relevant to the design of the Long Beach RiverLink project.

Criteria for Case Study Selection:

- The city’s riverfront was to be forlorn or under-utilized in the 20th century, usually by a single-issue planning measure such as flood control.
- The city and river studied at one time had historic or commercial links to the river system.
- The river was to be a linear riverine system of similar context to Long Beach’s reach of the Los Angeles River.
- There was to be an occurrence of partial to full channelization. The natural character of the river system was to be altered by improvements such as flood control or other single-issue-driven planning.
- The river system was to be crossed by major highway and infrastructure elements that caused barriers to movement, and areas that could have safety issues.
- The river parkway system had to be adjacent to former industrial brownfield sites and urban influences to develop ideas on connecting to the urban fabric while using adaptive reuse of post-industrial sites and structures.

Case Study Project Descriptions

Many of the river parkway systems incorporate unique features specific to their cities. They all make significant efforts to connect to the existing parks and significant urban districts and neighborhoods. The 10.5-mile system in Denver connects five major parks with varied amenities such as sports facilities, retail shops, a planned aquarium, an amusement park, formal gardens, residential units, and entertainment facilities, punctuated by spectacular pedestrian bridges. It also connects to privately supported open and wild spaces and makes every effort for neighborhood access through trail systems and pedestrian promenades.